



# NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

**December 2, 2022**

**Campbell University**

Marshbanks Hall

234 Day Dorm Road

Buies Creek, North Carolina 27506

**WELCOME:** Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:06 am, welcomed and acknowledged the guest, Commission Members, Tribal Leaders, Chiefs, State Officials, and staff.

**INVOCATION:** By Mr. Alfred Richardson, Commission Member, Haliwa Saponi Tribe.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner W. D. Baucom led the membership and guests in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL:**

### **TRIBAL AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Lenora Locklear	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Helen Cook	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Joshua Welch	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Carolyn West	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Shelia Epps Wilson	Present
Guilford Native American Association	DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Alfred Richardson	Present
Haliwa Saponi	P. Sunshine Richardson	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Ricky Burnett	Present
Lumbee	Vernanda Oxendine	Absent
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Absent
Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Rebecca LaClaire	Present
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Tony Hayes	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Yates	Absent
Triangle Native American Society	Danny Bell	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Nadine F. Patrick	Present



**ROLL CALL** *(Continued)*

**STATE OFFICIALS**

President Pro Tem Appointee	Gerald Goolsby	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Craig D. McMillian	Present
Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary		Present
Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary		
Department of Commerce/ ESC, Machel Sanders, Secretary		
Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer		Absent
Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary		
Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary		Absent
Representative: Cardina Jimenez, NCDEQ		Present
Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary		
Designee: Debra Farrington, Deputy Secretary Health Equity		Present
Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner		
Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs		Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Adhoc- <b>Non-Voting Member</b>		Absent
Designee: David Cranford, Assistant State Archaeologist		Present

The Chairman declared that a quorum existed, therefore, the meeting can proceed.

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE**

NCNAYO	Korbyn Walton (Co-Chair) - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent
NCNAYO	Peyten Jones (Co-Chair) - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent
NC NACOHE	Joshua L Richardson - <b>Non-Voting Member</b>	Absent

**STAFF PRESENT**

- Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
- Candace Lowry, Deputy Director
- Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary
- Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development Program & Supporting Undergraduate Native Students Program
- Pamela (Shena) Brewington, Program Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
- Steven (Steve) Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Evelyn Simmons, Administrative Specialist, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Sue Faircloth, Interim Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Alexander Burnett, Trainee, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
- Tenley (Nikki) Locklear, Program Director, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program
- Vinu Kamal, Administrative Associate, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program

**OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice

**OTHERS PRESENT:** List is on file with the Commission.

**ETHICS STATEMENT:** The Executive Director read the Ethics Statement on Behalf of Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman. He urged Commission Members to declare any conflicts of interest, or the



appearances of any conflicts of interest, which may exist in relation to any business matters before the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Mr. Greg Richardson informed the Commission members that he would like to add a Resolution to Support Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina, to the agenda. He informed the Commission that the resolution handout was distributed to members for review. Mr. Richardson recommended action on the resolution at the meeting. Secretary Pamela Cashwell asked that her presentation take place before the business items at today's meeting. Rev Ricky Burnett, Chairman requested a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of a Resolution in Support Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina.

Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to adopt the agenda as recommended by the Chairman and that Secretary Pamela Cashwell presentation be taken up before business items. Commissioner Larece Hunt seconded the motion. Motion carried with no objections.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2022, MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes of the September 2, 2022, meeting was presented. Commissioner Larece Hunt made a motion to approve the minutes of September 2, 2022. Commissioner Craig McMillan seconded the motion. The Chairman requested that members raise their right hand and say "Aye" if they are in favor of approving the minutes. With the Aye's being a majority, the minutes were accepted by voice vote by unanimous consent, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried.

#### **GUEST PRESENTATIONS:**

Welcoming and Greetings from Campbell University Officials: Dr. Alfred Bryant, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences. He welcomed everyone to Campbell University and presented a brief comment.

Dr. Mark Hammond, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost expressed that he was delighted to have Commission back on campus. He welcomed visitors and everyone to Campbell University. He stated the university is a place of academic excellence with many traditions. He thanked the Commission for taking advantage of the resources available at Campbell University, with regards to meeting space and other events. On behalf of the university leadership, he welcomed everyone. He gave a brief overview of Campbell University programs and its law school etc. and invited the Indian community to consider sending their students to the University. In conclusion, Dr. Hammond thanked everyone for coming.

Dr. John Roberson, Executive Vice President – This item was moved to later in the agenda.

**Rural Partners Network Briefing:** Mr. Reginald Speight, State Director Office of Rural Development U.S. Department of Agriculture presented a brief overview on the following:

- Introduction to Rural Initiative. Rural Partners Network Website: [www.rural.gov](http://www.rural.gov)
- Provide contact information. He requested members to contact him if they need additional clarification.
- Initiative – strike force
- Federal Resources – For unserved or underserved communities
- Mr. Speight discussed recruitment of staff who will work 100% with USDA, they will be called community liaison. Twenty different federal offices will be added to serve the underserved communities.



- He highlighted the USDA website [www.rural.gov](http://www.rural.gov), which list the twenty different federal offices and partners.
- Discussed Justice Forty– It is a tool to measure the effectiveness of all federal government offices. Forty percent of all revenue of the current budget under this Biden Administration will go to the underserved or unserved communities.
- Discussed equity project. Mr. Speight informed everyone that there are communities that can benefit from the USDA program initiatives. USDA is modifying its policies to provide special concession to fund unserved or underserved communities.

No handout was distributed.

**Dr. John Roberson, Executive Vice President, Campbell University:** Dr. Roberson followed-up on the December 2021, meeting, and a planned partnership with the Commission. He informed the Commission that the two entities can interface in many ways!

- Discussed leadership development: (1) Elected Tribal Leadership, (2) Provide educational opportunities for high school students. To learn more about their culture and develop young leaders.
- The School of Business will implement the Leadership Development Program and will touch on the areas that are important to the Commission and Indian communities.
- Dr. Roberson indicated that the university could compile topics of interest and provide a learning opportunity that will expand over a year. Discussed how this program could create leadership development opportunities, education, and networking.
- He announced that the program will be an in-person learning experience, a virtual learning experience, and end with a learning experience that would enhance the participants employability at the tribal and community level.
- The initial cohort consists of twenty-students (Commission members/ tribal leaders). The first day and half will be in-person training with boarding and lodging at the university.
- All other sessions will be held on-line. Faculty and students will meet virtually for seven sessions.
- Topics for virtual proposed training will be: Personal assessment and mentoring; Group dynamics; Government policies and funding; Financial understanding; and Leading others.
- Indicated that the cohort will be divided into several smaller groups. At the end, there will be a final presentation of the comprehension work completed from each of the sub-groups.
- Dr. Roberson indicated that Campbell University will make available their resources for the leadership program. He also indicated that the University is interested in creating and Alumni Association through this training. The goal is to create networking opportunities through resources and build a community together on campus.
- Dr. Roberson asked Commission members to help advocate this effort and the training.

No handout was distributed.

#### **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

- Commission member asked for written description of the training program. Dr. Roberson indicated that he is waiting on Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director to confirm if the Commission would like to proceed with this effort. Since December 2021, Campbell University



has been looking forward to putting a plan together for tribal leadership. The goal is too present today so the Commission can approve.

- A Commission member asked who will oversee the program. Dr. Roberson indicated that the university will be responsible, and Dr. Bryant and members of the faculty will oversee the program. Dr. Bryant will be the key liaison for the program.
- Questions were asked as to who will teach the classes. Dr. Roberson informed that it will be Campbell University faculty and others from outside to assist. Campbell University will use all the resources and provide the best learning opportunities.
- The Executive Director thanked Dr. Roberson, asked Commission members to take advantage of this opportunity and to start moving forward in 2023 with this effort. He will work with Campbell University to work on a strategy to jump start the process.
- Commissioner Tony Hayes thanked Dr. Roberson for including American Indians in his work.
- Dr. Roberson expressed “the values taught here at the university are values you will embrace.” He is looking forward to the partnership and the continued relationship with the Commission of Indian Affairs and Indian Tribes.
- Commission members asked what the cost for the training is. Dr. Roberson indicated that there will be no cost associated relating to the students. Campbell University will be using internal and external resources to fund the program. He also indicated that there are grant opportunities available and that Campbell will be looking for grant opportunities to support the program. He concluded by saying, if the Commission would like to help, they are certainly welcome to contribute. He expressed that this is an important effort and that he is committed to carrying the program out.

**Motion:** Commissioner Tony Hayes made a motion to approve Dr. John Roberson recommendation to move forward with the Tribal Leaders project. Commissioner Lenora Locklear seconded the motion. Motion carried with no objection from the membership.

Chairman Rev. Burnett introduced Mr. Kerry Bird, who was invited to give an overview of the newly formed Indian Heritage Commission, that is housed in the NC Department of Cultural Resources. Mr. Bird presented a PowerPoint presentation on the new Commission. Mr. Quinn Godwin, Assistant Director of the Indian Heritage Commission, was not in attendance so this presentation was moved to a later time on the agenda.

**DMV Partnership:** Chairman announced Mr. Wayne Goodwin, Commissioner, NC Division of Motor Vehicles, was running late, so this presentation was moved to later time on the agenda.

**Catawba Foundation Overview:** The Honorable Bill Harris, Chief of the Catawba Nation and Lydia Locklear, Deputy Tribal Attorney, with the Catawba Nation presented the following information:

- Narrated a brief history of the tribe going back to 1975.
- Indicated that the Catawba has land in South Carolina and North Carolina; Indicated that due to the 1990 Settlement Resolution; that Catawba has land in the state of North Carolina since that time.
- Discussed the gaming rights in North Carolina.
- Indicated that Catawba has opposition from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian (ECBI). Chief Harris indicated that Catawba gave ECBI an opportunity to partner with them to assist all



Indigenous people of North and South Carolina (federal and state recognized tribes), however, the Eastern Band decline the recommendation.

- Chief Harris indicated that he has received support from the Commission of Indian Affairs and urges the inclusiveness of all tribes and indicated that there is no reason to be in opposition, with the state recognized tribes.
- Chief Harris concluded by saying “we can do everything together. We can agree to disagree. We can make our communities to go further.” He also stated “We go back a thousand years. Our strength lies in our communities!”

Assistant Catawba Chief Jason Harris reiterated the same. He expressed that his tribe want to be good stewards, educate, and empower the American Indian communities.

- Discussed Missing Murdered and Indigenous People and the need to work together as tribes and organization to address this problem.
- Indicated that as tribal leaders there is need to educate American Indian communities, about this issue as well as many others.

Lydia Locklear, (Lumbee) Deputy Tribal Attorney, with the Catawba Nation indicated that she had worked with the State Recognition Program at the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, before joining the Catawba Nation. Her presentation was about the e Catawba Foundation and presented an overview as follows:

- The Catawba Nation consist of six service counties in North Carolina. It has trust lands and a casino called “Two Kings Casinos, which is in Kings Mountain, NC outside of Charlotte, NC
- Announced that the Catawba Nation is hiring staff (American Indians) at the casino. Indicated that the tribe has sent information about job openings to the Commission and encouraged the Commission to assist them in getting the word out about employment opportunities at the casino and with the tribe.
- The foundation has many purposes. It is a non-profit organization. Two of its purposes are as follows: To educate federal and state recognized American Indian and to provide educational scholarships for members of the Catawba Nation and other federal and state recognized Indians in North Carolina.
- This foundation will have twelve Board of Directors appointed by the Governor of North Carolina. Some members will be from Catawba Nation and the Governor will also appoint other members to the Board.
- Indicated that the foundation will be funded in March 2023. More information will follow in Spring 2023.
- Indicated that the Commission can send information to the tribes about scholarships for American Indian, to be made available through the Foundation.
- Expressed that Catawba Nation is committed to providing scholarships to tribal members in the Carolinas.

No handout was distributed.

**COMMENT FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

- Commission member Tony Hayes thanked Chief Harris, Vice Chief Harris, and Ms. Locklear for their presentation and for their intentions to help educate American Indian citizens in North



Carolina. He expressed respect and appreciation for Chief Harris and Vice Chief Harris and stated that they were intentional with their goal and mission from its conception right up to present day. He applauded them for their word of honor.

## **GUEST PRESENTATION (Continued)**

### **Greetings:**

Pamela Cashwell, Secretary, Department of Administration (DOA), presented the following information:

- **Budget:** Secretary Cashwell indicated that DOA is in the process of creating the departmental budget. Specifics will be announced at the next meeting. Expressed that she is continuing to request more appropriated positions for the Commission of Indian Affairs.
- **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP):** The program provides funds for anyone, people on tribal land and people not on tribal land. However, they need to meet the income eligibility/ qualifications. It is a monthly stipend that goes directly to the provider of internet services. Currently, if anyone signs up it is a \$30 per month benefit. It was stated the information was sent to the tribes and organizations. The sign-up period is currently open. Secretary Cashwell requested that the Commission members share the information with the tribal communities.
- **Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) Rules and Procurement:** The rules are designed to provide a specific goal of 10% of all state spending (contracts) on the construction projects for HUB vendors. Secretary Cashwell indicated that all state agencies and universities are impacted by these rules.
- **American Indian Heritage Month Celebration:** The Secretary indicated that six Governor's Pages that have been assigned to Department of Administration, and they all attended the celebration. They also attended the reading of the Indian Heritage Month Proclamation that Governor signed.
- **Indian Unity Conference:** Secretary Cashwell met with United Tribes this quarter; Discussed the Indian Unity Conference scheduled for March 9-11, 2023. She recommended that United Tribes include new workshops such as: How to start new businesses, leadership, utilizing social media, etc. She urged Commission members to send the workshop recommendations to Greg Richardson. She requested each member to invite young people to the Unity Conference and to take an active role in the conference. She thanked everyone who participated in previous years but expressed a need to grow young leaders who can eventually become mentors.
- **Resolution – Support of Medicaid Expansion:** Secretary Cashwell discussed Medicaid Expansion, how it will benefit Indian Communities across the state of North Carolina. She indicated that Medicaid Expansion is a preventative health care option for our communities. A handout about Medicaid Expansion was distributed. It was indicated this item will be pushed hard going forward. Commission member Debra Farrington is the Designee for Department of Health and Human Services can provide more details. Ms. Farrington acknowledged the information provided is correct, members of rural communities benefit from Medicaid expansion. 600,000 North Carolinians will get access to this health care through Medicaid Expansion. People with substance abuse will benefit by obtaining treatment and health care.
- **Resource Guide for American Indian Public Speakers:** Secretary Cashwell expressed a need for a comprehensive Resource Guide to be developed which would include a list of public speakers, HUB businesses (construction, electricians, plumbers), and other various roles.

No handout was distributed.



## **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**Executive Director's Report:** Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs, presented his written report. The highlights of his presentation are as follows:

- Discussed the Medicaid Expansion Resolution No. 2-2022 – Title: Support of Medicaid Expansion. Mr. Richardson requested Commission members to take a moment to review the Resolution Titled - Support of Medicaid Expansion". Mr. Richardson indicated that access to health care and health coverage is important for American Indian communities in the state of North Carolina and urged the Commission to adopt the resolution.
- Chairman Rev Burnett asked Commission members if they had any questions about the resolution. No comments were received from the Commission members. Hearing none, the Chairman requested a motion to adopt the resolution.

**Motion:** Commissioner Sheila Wilson made a motion to approve the Resolution in Support of Medicaid Expansion. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. Chairman Rev. Burnett requested a roll call vote. Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that the total number of votes need to be listed in the resolution. Chairman Rev. Burnett requested that members raise their right hand and say "I" if they are in favor of approving the resolution. With the I's being a majority, total vote count of 21 in-favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions, the resolution was accepted by voice vote by unanimous consent, with no correction or objections from the membership. Motion carried.

The handout Resolution No. 2-2022 – Title: Support of Medicaid Expansion is on file and an official part of the minutes.

## **Executive Director's Report Continued:**

Mr. Greg Richardson continued his presentation as follows:

- Recap on Indian Heritage Month Celebration. It was a phenomenally successful event.
- Recap on the regional Employment Training Conference and indicated that the conference asked for a letter of support for the continuation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program. Mr. Richardson gave a brief overview of what was discussed at the conference and the level of staff participation that occurred at the conference.
- Announced the upcoming NC Indian Unity Conference, scheduled for March 9-11th 2023 at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Indicated that the deadline for Veterans Award nominations is due by December 15, 2022. Awards will be presented during the Indian Unity Conference banquet on March 10, 2023.
- Thanked Chief Harris for the invitation to host a site visit to the Catawba Nation in 2023.
- Indicated that the staff is working on a \$2M digital equity grant proposal. The grant is designed to enhance technology services in the Indian communities of the state. He indicated that the proposal may help with purchasing laptops, iPads for students and the Indian community.
- Indicated that the Commission's Workforce program has been refunded \$357,000 as part of the continuation grant.
- Indicated that staff is working with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on another grant titled, Tobacco Prevention Survey which will be implemented in Indian communities. This survey and study will determine how tobacco has impacted the American Indian communities and our citizens. This is pass-through funding from the Center for Disease Control. Staff Quarterly Program Reports: Included in Board packet.





- The Executive Director Report was distributed in the Board packet.

The Executive Director Report is on file and an official part of the minutes.

#### **COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chairman Rev. Burnett opened the floor for Committee reports. However, he announced that reports with action items will be considered. Chair announced that only three Committees have action items, and they are: Economic Development & Employment Committee, Legislative Committee, and Environmental Justice Committee.

**Legislative Committee:** Commissioner Tony Hayes, Committee Chair presented the Legislative Committee report as follows:

- The Legislative Committee Meeting minutes from the November 17, 2022, was distributed in the Board packet.
- Discussed an addition to the Legislative agenda – Chair Hayes indicated that Lumbee Tribe is changing the name from Lumber River to its ancestral name to the Lumbee River. Chair Hayes opened the floor to answer questions. None responded.

#### **Motion: Motorcycle License Plate**

- Commissioner Craig McMillian noted as consideration he discussed with Chair Hayes to create a motion for an American Indian Insignia License Plate for Motorcycles through the NCDMV, with a portion of the fee to be allocated to the American Indian Scholarship Fund. Chair McMillian made a motion to add to the Legislative agenda that any state recognized tribe be allowed to have their own tribal plates for vehicles and motorcycles (that includes a designated tribal insignia or phrase) if they choose to do like the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Session Law 2018-7, House Bill 92, did recently which includes verbiage related to tags are only eligible to those individuals who produce proof of Tribal Membership) and meet the NCDMV qualifications (minimum number of signature). With funding from this to go towards the individual tribe's scholarship fund (GA session 2011, House Bill 716). Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Gerald Goolsby indicated that some tribe may not want to indicate their tribe's name on the license plate, so it is up to the tribe to include the tribal name or not. Commission Goolsby reiterated his support for the option to include "tribal name or not" in the motion.

#### **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:**

- Commissioner Ray Jacobs asked such an action will impact the current American Indian license plate funding. Chair Hayes informed the Commission that this will not affect the American Indian Scholarship fund since it is for car license plates. He expressed that currently no motorcycle tags/ license plate with this designation yet. Chair Hayes indicated that that he is working with our Director and Commissioner Wayne Goodwin to ensure the correct procedure. He expressed anything the Commission does must have an economic or social impact. He noted the Commission must continue to support the scholarship fund for American Indians across the state of North Carolina through the additional cost with the purchase of these tags.
- Mr. Richardson gave a brief overview of how the fund started and explained in detail how the scholarship fund works. Through the purchase of the American Indian license plate part of the cost goes towards the Scholarship fund. He explained, the scholarship fund is managed by Triangle Community Foundation, Research Triangle Park. He indicated that the foundation can



now grant scholarships up to a \$1,000 per student each year. Funds from the new motorcycle plate will be applied to the same scholarship fund; this recommendation will be included in the proposed legislation. Mr. Richardson invited Commissioner Goodwin to comment on the motorcycle license plate fund.

- Commissioner Wayne Goodwin, NC Department of Motor Vehicle gave a brief overview of the partnership with the Commission with regards to the motorcycle license plate. He indicated that NCDMV will follow the procedure of the motor vehicle license plate. He is looking forward towards a successful partnership with the Commission of Indian Affairs.
- Mr. Richardson asked clarifying question since it is a North Carolina license plate, can the license plates be purchased by anyone or can it be limited to tribal members.
- Commissioner Goodwin responded unless the statute says otherwise the license plates must be sold to the public in general. The language in the bill must be very specific.
- Commission members asked clarifying questions and referenced the EBCI legislation. ECBI tribal members must provide tribal membership to get the license plate.
- Question was asked who verifies the tribal enrollment, is it the tribal office or DMV when the license plate application is obtained. It was indicated DMV request the citizen to provide the proof of tribal membership.
- Commission members asked if ECBI license plate funding goes directly to ECBI, if their students are eligible for the American Indian Scholarship Fund from the Triangle Community Foundation.
- Commission member asked clarifying question on how much is the license tag fee and how much of the individual fees goes towards the American Indian scholarship fund. The original legislation indicates \$10 per license tag. A Commission member stated that it has increased to \$20 per license tag.
- Commissioner Goodwin stated he does not have the information now but will be happy to share the information later.
- A Commission member expressed concern, about the American Indian Scholarship funding being reduced.
- A Commission member expressed interest and requested information on the tribes that are currently benefiting from the student scholarship.

**Amendment to Motion:**

- Commissioner Tony Hayes, Legislative Committee Chair, indicated that based on this discussion, he suggested that the Commission amend the motion for further clarification on the distribution of funds. Commissioner Craig McMillian made a motion to approve the Legislative agenda FY 2023-2024, with the amendment of the distribution of funds for the motorcycle license plate. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. Chairman Rev. Burnett requested members to raise their right hand and say “Aye” if they are in favor of approving the Legislative agenda FY 2023-2024. With the Aye’s being a majority, total vote count 17 for/ in-favor, 2 oppose, the motion for the Legislative agenda FY 2023-2024 with the amendment of the distribution of funds for the motorcycle license plate was accepted by voice vote by unanimous consent, Motion carried.

**Continuation of Legislative Committee report:**

- In conclusion, Commissioner Tony Hayes, Committee Chair indicated that the committee has increased the costs for several programs in the Legislative agenda.



- Requesting \$500,000 recurring money to each tribe every year from Legislature. Discussions are on-going.
- Commissioner Tony Hayes, Committee Chair asked if there were any questions. None noted.
- Commissioner Tony Hayes, Committee Chair confirmed with Chairman Rev. Burnett if the Legislative agenda for FY 2023-2024 is ratified. Chairman Rev. Burnett confirmed “yes.”

The handout of the Legislative Committee meeting minutes dated November 17, 2022, is on file and an official part of the minutes.

**Environmental Justice Committee:** Commissioner Craig McMillian, Committee Chair presented this item. The Environmental Justice Committee meeting minutes dated Nov 29, 2022, was distributed in the Board packet. The “action items” were distributed in the Board packet as well.

Commissioner Craig McMillian, Committee Chair presented recommendations from the Environmental Justice Committee. The action item dated November 29, 2022, was distributed in the Board packet. Chair McMillian read the excerpt as follows:

**Action Item #1:**

Commissioner McMillian requested feedback from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality on the soil and water contamination from the Gen X pollution into the surrounding ground water and Cape Fear River.

**ACTION Item #2:**

Commissioner McMillian recommended the Commission contact the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to request a full water analysis of the Maxton Pond and an analysis of the land surrounding the pond. To also seek funding to employ an American Indian firm to conduct the analysis.

**ACTION Item #3:**

Commissioner McMillian recommended that Candace Lowry, Deputy Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs function as the liaison between the Department of Agriculture to inform all tribes in North Carolina of assistance and resources that are available through the NC Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Also, purpose that the Deputy Director works with USDA on new grant funding opportunities the Commission could apply to distribute assistance to the tribes of North Carolina that currently do not have an Agriculture program.

Commissioner McMillian, Committee Chair asked if there are any questions on the action items. Chairman Rev. Burnett indicated that this information coming from the Committee it did not need a second. Chairman Rev. Burnett asked Commission members if there were any discussion on the action items presented. None noted. Chairman Rev. Burnett requested members to raise their right hand if they are in favor of approving the Environmental Justice Committee action items. With the showing of hands raised being a majority, the total vote count was 18 in-favor, 0 oppose, the motion to approve the Environmental Justice Committee action items were accepted by unanimous consent, Motion carried.

The handout of the Environmental Justice Committee Action Items dated November 29, 2022, is on file and an official part of the minutes.



Commissioner Gerald Goolsby clarified if the entire Legislative agenda with the amendment was approved. Chairman Rev. Burnett confirmed “yes.”

**DMV Partnership:** Mr. Wayne Goodwin, Commissioner, NC Division of Motor Vehicles, presented this item as follows:

- DMV Partnership on Motorcycle Plates and Vehicle License Plates
- Mr. Greg Richardson requested Commissioner Goodwin to discuss (1) the race issue on driver license; (2) Employment of American Indians in Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Mr. Richardson indicated that the employment issue has changed since his previous meeting with Commissioner Goodwin.
- Commissioner Goodwin expressed that he is looking forward to working with the legislature, Governor’s office, and the legislative liaison with regards to the Commission request to ensure successful legislation on motorcycle plates and any future vehicle license plates.
- Discussed DMV recruitment and vacancies on the public sector and private sector. Commissioner Goodwin informed the Commission that expectations have changed. Currently, DMV has a 25%-30% vacancy rate.
- Commissioner Goodwin indicated that he wants to hire American Indian citizens in the driver license office particularly in the American Indian communities to achieve diversity.
- He informed the Commission he would like to hire Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program trainees. He is looking forward to continuing the partnership and working cooperatively and proactively with the Commission.
- Announced vacancies in the Rocky Mount headquarters and would like to hire American Indian employees from around the area.
- Mr. Greg Richardson reminded Commissioner Goodwin about his conversation regarding the call center in Columbus County (Waccamaw Siouan area) where there is great need for staffing.
- Commissioner Goodwin discussed the call centers in Bladen County, Columbus County. There is need to fill these positions. He informed that calls come from the entire state, they do need to have back up. DMV has increased the salaries. The Governor has requested that the legislature increase salaries for employees. Commissioner Goodwin is confident it will continue. Anyone in that region if interested can apply to these positions.
- Mr. Richardson expressed concerns from the Indian community requesting satellite offices in the American Indian community (full time or part time) to ease their commute.
- Commissioner Goodwin indicated the driver’s license offices are operated by the state of North Carolina. License plate agencies are supervised by the state but operated by contractors that are selected through a competitive process. It is the goal of North Carolina government that citizens and residents of North Carolina have access to the services at all DMV offices and license plate agencies. He indicated that some communities throughout the state help locate and either donate or help DMV locate an office. In some instances, the local government or tribe can help procuring or locating an office. If there is a need to have an office where we are not, then the tribe needs to help provide office space.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:**

- Commission member asked a clarifying question if the two different license plate agencies work in the same area, are they protected. Is there a distance protection.



- Commissioner Goodwin indicated that there is a guide with rules and regulations for license plate agencies. He expressed many of the agencies have offices in multiple places. It is not prohibited.
- Commissioner Goodwin stated that in some communities they are unable to find contractors. The rule is they are privately run, but there are some exceptions.
- Mr. Richardson asked does DMV have offices in rural areas if not, is there an opportunity to set up mobile units.
- Commissioner Goodwin responded that DMV is meeting with prospective vendors to resolve this issue. He plans to add more Kiosks set-up across the state.

No handout was distributed.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**Flower Fund Report:** Commissioner Nadine Patrick, Secretary/ Treasurer presented the Flower Fund Report as follows:

Flower Fund balance: \$420.74

Received a check: \$176.74 (from Ms. Wanda Burns Ramsey, former Secretary/ Treasurer)

Collected: \$244.00 (at the September 2, 2022, Commission meeting)

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced a short ten-minute break at 12:36 pm

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that two Commission member were not able to attend our meeting. Mr. Vee Oxendine has a death in his family and Commission member Dorothy Yates, Vice Chair, had an automobile accident and is not able to attend the meeting, He urged the members to keep both Commission members in thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Richardson also remembered Elk Richardson; his mother-in-law is extremely sick.

Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs announced he has surgery next week and to keep him in thoughts and prayers.

#### **LUNCH BREAK (working lunch)**

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced lunch break at 12:58 pm. He requested Commissioner Gerald Goolsby to bless the food. The meeting reconvened at 1:37 pm.

#### **FOLLOW-UP STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION**

Dr. Priscilla Maynor, Founder, CEO, ImaginEd Partners, Facilitator and Dr. Bridget Johnson, Co-Founder facilitated a follow-up of the June 2-3, 2022, Strategic Planning Session, at Campbell University.

Dr. Maynor presented a PowerPoint presentation. She discussed the following:

- Objectives: Develop a shared understanding and commitment to the organizational and operational roles of the Commission.
- Team Building: Dr. Maynor discussed the following: Purpose; Identity and Roles; Mission and Vision; Strategic Priorities; and Values.
- Role of the Commission – Policy and Advocacy
- Planning Strategic



- The Mission Statement and Vision Statement
- The Strategy Pyramid
- Discussed Guiding Principles for creating Native Systems: (1) Engaging the tribal community; (2) Focus on advancing positive outcomes and eliminating disparities; (3) Establish a culture of continuous improvement; (4) Leverage the time/ talents and treasure of our greatest asset.
- Proposed Timeline
- Seven Habits of Highly effective people beginning with end in mind.
- Shared commitment and shared understanding

#### Organizational Strategy

- Recap – Vision, mission, and strategic priorities
- State’s infrastructure for addressing Indian Affairs
- Next steps

#### Operational Strategy

- Roles (Expectations) and Responsibilities of Commissioners and staff
- Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Discussed Core Indicators – Measures of Success. Discussed Goals and Responsibilities.
- Governance framework Vs Management. Discussed Responsibilities, Partnerships, Board, Administrators
- Operational processes: Discussed how the process/ things work.
- NCCIA Committees
- Next steps.
- The 90-day Proposed Timeline: Dr. Maynor discussed the NCCIA Strategic Planning Process on the PowerPoint presentation.

#### Discussion:

- Dr. Maynor discussed “How to engage each tribal community.”
- Discussed need to have tribal consultation in each community. Having structures based on the goals and progress being made on the goals.
- Discussed process, structure, and communication.
- Discussed roles of the Commission member to have greater clarity.
- Group Activity on the Roles of the Commission
- Discussed shared commitment and shared understanding.
- Discussed number of current Commission Committees and its structure.

No handout was distributed.

#### **COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION FROM COMMISSION:**

- Secretary Cashwell requested Dr. Maynor to go back to the Mission Statement. She informed Dr. Maynor that one of the challenges for the Commission, the Commission staff is doing programmatic work in the communities. The Commission is the advocacy, policy making decision of the work of the Commission. Secretary Cashwell stated that the two do not align necessarily, the Commission cannot do all the work required by the statutory work of the

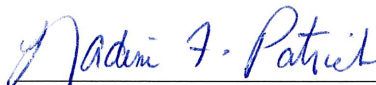


Commission. The Commission can do the policy side and legislative side being the advocacy to the legislature side.

- Mission Statement reads as follows: The mission of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is to advocate on behalf of North Carolina's American Indian population to address needs and improve their quality of life through effective, efficient, and equitable programs and services.
- Secretary Cashwell referenced the Vision Statement and expressed she liked the last statement. So now it reads as follows: All American Indians in North Carolina are healthier, wealthier, more educated, stronger, and recognized (as sovereign tribal nations)." Secretary Cashwell expressed that this is the vision she wants for all of North Carolina American Americans.
- Secretary Cashwell informed Dr. Maynor that she wants to move forward and be productive after having a two-day work session and meeting today.
- Secretary Cashwell expressed that she would like to see progress on the Mission and Vision.
- Secretary Cashwell stated that the policy work of the Commission can have a bigger impact on the Community than the programmatic work of the Commission.
- Dr. Maynor expressed communication is critical. She indicated that she has put together a 90-day plan. Dr. Maynor asked Commission members if the Mission Statement and the Vision Statement were acceptable.
- Dr. Maynor referenced the 90-day Proposed Timeline - NCCIA Strategic Planning Process listed on the PowerPoint presentation.
- Commission members expressed that attendance needs to be addressed for Commission meetings and Committee meetings to have a quorum present. Dr. Maynor indicated that it is under operations in her presentation. She also indicated that regular attendance is indicated in the Commission By-Laws.
- Secretary Cashwell expressed she would like to attend the tribal community meeting and town hall events. She is happy to meet with each tribal community.

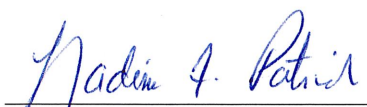
#### ADJOURNMENTS:

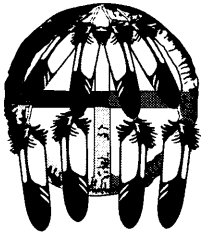
With there being no further items to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting, was made by Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2023, Hilton Hotel, North Raleigh, NC.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)

 3-9-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary  
(Sign & Date)

*These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on March 9, 2023.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer  
NC Commission of Indian Affairs  
(Sign & Date)



**N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING**

**Campbell University  
Marshbanks Hall  
234 Day Dorm Road  
Buies Creek, North Carolina 27506**

**December 2, 2022  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
DRAFT AGENDA**

**Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!**

<b>Opening Session</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
Call to Order	Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman
Invocation	Alfred Richardson, Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Joshua Rory Welch, Commission Member
Roll Call	Daphne Pinto, Administrator Assistant
Ethics Statement	Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Adoption of Meeting Agenda	Chairman Burnett
Approval of September 2, 2022 Minutes	Chairman Burnett
<b>Guest Presentations:</b>	<b>10:15 am</b>
Greetings	Pamela Cashwell, Secretary, NC Department of Administration
Welcoming and Greetings From Campbell University Officials	Dr. Alfred Bryant, Dean of the School of Education and Human Sciences
	Dr. Mark Hammond, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost
	Dr. John Roberson, Executive Vice President
Rural Partners Network Briefing	Reginald Speight, State Director Office of Rural Development U.S. Department of Agriculture
DMV Partnership	Wayne Goodwin, Commissioner, NC Division of Motor Vehicles
Catawba Foundation Overview	The Honorable Bill Harris, Chief of the Catawba Nation Lydia Locklear, Deputy Tribal Attorney, Catawba Nation
<b>Business Items:</b>	<b>10:45 am</b>
Executive Director's Report Staff Quarterly Program Reports (copies included in packet)	Greg Richardson



<b>Commission Committee Reports</b>	<b>10:50 am</b>
<b>*Committee reports with actions items only</b>	
American Indian Culture & Religion Committee	Danny Bell, Chair
American Indian Housing	Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair
Economic Development & Employment Committee	Lenora Locklear, Chair
Adhoc Indian Health Sub-Committee	Constance Mitchell, Chair
Veterans Affair Sub-Committee	Joshua Rory Welch, Chair
American Indian Child Welfare	Dorothy Yates, Chair
American Indian Education	Dorothy Yates, Chair
Legislative	Tony Hayes, Chair
Adhoc Land Trust	Vernanda (Vee) Oxendine, Chair
State and Federal Recognition	Larece Hunt, Chair
Environmental Justice	Craig McMillian, Chair
<b>Other Business Items:</b>	
Flower Fund Report	Nadine F. Patrick, Secretary/Treasurer
<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>12:00 Noon - 1:00 pm</b>
Follow-Up Strategic Planning Session	Dr. Priscilla Maynor, Ed.D. Founder + CEO ImaginED Partners, Facilitator  Dr. Bridget Johnson, Co-Facilitator
	Objective: Develop a shared understanding and commitment to the organizational and operational roles of the Commission.  1. Organizational Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap – Vision, mission, and strategic priorities</li> <li>• State’s infrastructure for addressing Indian Affairs</li> <li>• Next steps</li> </ul> 2. Operational Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roles and responsibilities of Commissioners and staff</li> <li>• Governance framework and operational processes</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next steps</li> </ul>
--	--

<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
<b>2023 Commission Meetings</b>	
<p><b>March 9, 2023</b> -In conjunction with NC Indian Unity Conference (March 9-March 11, 2023), at Hilton Hotel, North Raleigh, NC.</p> <p><b>June 2, 2023</b> – Location TBA</p> <p><b>September 1, 2023</b> - Location TBA</p> <p><b>December 1, 2023</b> – Location TBA</p>	